

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 06802 131844Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-07 /027 W
-----079624 140206Z /66

R 131630Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1701

UNCLAS MADRID 6802

FOR OES: CHARLES GORSEY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, MARR, SP
SUBJECT: JOINT COMMITTEE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: SOLAR ENERGY

REF: (A) STATE 207370; (B) STATE 215360

1. REGARDING PROPOSED VISIT TO MADRID OF CLIFFORD SELVAGE (REF. A), EMBASSY WAS ADVISED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY ON SEPTEMBER 12 THAT IT HAD JUST LEARNED OF A GOS DECISION TO SEND A LARGE SPANISH DELEGATION TO THE WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCE IN ISTANBUL SEPTEMBER 19-23. SELVAGE'S TWO MOST IMPORTANT CONTACTS, MAGANA AND TEMBOURY, WILL BE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION AND THIS WOULD NOT BE THE MOST OPPORTUNE TIME FOR SELVAGE TO COME TO MADRID. DEPARTMENT PLEASE INFORM JOHN LEECH AT ERDA. EMBASSY HAS INFORMED SELVAGE BY TELEPHONE.

2. JOINT COMMITTEE SECRETARY BENAVIDES SAID SPANISH SIDE HAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO ERDA'S ACTING AS PURCHASING AGENT FOR EQUIPMENT REQUESTED BY SPANISH CENTER FOR ENERGY STUDIES (REF. B) PROVIDED THERE IS NO ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGE BY ERDA FOR THIS SERVICE. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED BY THE SPANISH SIDE OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE TO HAVING ALL THE INSTITUTIONAL (PROCUREMENT) PROPOSALS APPROVED AT THE
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SAME TIME SO THAT THERE WOULD BE NO COMPLAINTS OF FAVORITISM. HE FELT THAT, IF NECESSARY TO GAIN TIME, FORMAL JOINT COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSALS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES, PERHAPS SUPPORTED BY AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN THE COCHAIRMEN, IN ADVANCE OF THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE.

3. ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES ARE BEING DRAFTED BY SCIATT AND JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (SEPTEL.). THESE WILL INCLUDE A PROVISION FOR THE RECORDING OF TRANSACTIONS, SUCH AS THE DEPARTMENT TO ERDA TRANSFER, IN WHICH THE FUNDS DO NOT PASS THROUGH THE SECRETARIAT.

4. SECRETARY BENAVIDES AGAIN RAISED WITH SCIATT THE MATTER OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS REFERRED TO IN PARA. B OF ARTICLE V, SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT NO. 3 AND WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SOLAR ENERGY IN ARTICLE XV AND TO THE CITATION OF THESE IN PARA. 2 OF OUR NOTE 70 OF JANUARY 24, 1976 (MCCLOSKEY TO ROVIRA) WHICH CHARGES THE JOINT COMMITTEE WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR TAKING ACTION ON SPECIAL PROGRAM FUNDING. WHILE FROM U.S. STANDPOINT IT WOULD SEEM PREMATURE TO LAUNCH SPECIAL PROGRAMS BEFORE ANY EXPERIENCE WITH ANNUAL PROGRAMS, THERE MAY NEVERTHELESS BE A SPANISH ATTEMPT, MOTIVATED BY THE INTENSE INTERMINISTERIAL COMPETITION FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM FUNDS, TO REVIVE CONSIDERATION AT THE OCTOBER 18 MEETING, OR EVEN CONCEIVABLY TO MENTION IT AT THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 30. EATON

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